

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees, please enter this Amendment.
The claims added herein are fully supported by the original application as filed.
No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-12 have been amended to bring the same into conformance with US practice, while new claim 13-22 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached document is entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**"

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Please amend claims 1-12 as follows:

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consisting of acrylates and methacrylates of (C₁-C₁₂) monoalcohols, vinylaromatic monomers, vinyl esters of (C₁-C₁₂) alkanemonocarboxylic acids, vinyl halides, α,β -monoolefinically unsaturated nitriles and[/or] alkyl esters of monoolefinically unsaturated dicarboxylic acids,

b) from 0.3 to 10% by weight of one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of α,β -monoolefinically unsaturated monocarboxylic acids, [and] dicarboxylic acids, and[/or] their amides or N-substituted amides, and

c) from 0 to 20% by weight of compounds selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl-containing monomers, acetylacetoxy-containing monomers, monomers containing epoxide groups, monomers containing silane groups, nitrogen-containing monomers and[/or] monomers containing keto groups.

9. (Amended) The [use] method as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] claim 1, wherein the one or more binders comprise at least one additive selected from the group consisting of emulsifiers, protective colloids, additives, auxiliaries and[/or] noncopolymerizable crosslinkers.
10. (Amended) The [use] method as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims, characterized] claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating composition is a composition selected from the group consisting of [in that the coating compositions comprise] an exterior paint, an interior paint, a roadmarking paint, a primer, a wood coating, exterior render [or] and interior plaster.
11. (Amended) The [use] method as claimed in [at least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that] claim 1, wherein the aqueous coating [compositions comprise] composition is a composition selected from the group consisting

of adhesives, pastes, putties, sealing compounds [or] and pressure compensation coatings for exterior insulation and finish systems.

12. (Amended) The [use] method as claimed in [at least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that] claim 1, wherein the coating [compositions] composition [comprise the] includes unadditived binders [which are used as they are].

Please add new claims 13 through 22 as follows:

13. (New) An aqueous coating composition comprising:
 - at least one binder, wherein the at least one binder includes polymer dispersions based on one or more homopolymers and/or copolymers; and
 - at least one water-soluble zirconium compound.
14. (New) The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the at least one zirconium compound is present in an amount up to 50% by weight, calculated as zirconium oxide and based on the at least one binder present in the coating composition.
15. (New) The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the at least one zirconium compound is selected from the group consisting of ammonium zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetoacetate, zirconium hydroxychloride, zirconium orthosulfate, zirconium propionate and potassium zirconium phosphate.
16. (New) The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein based on the amount of monomers, the copolymers comprise:

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22. (New) A compound comprising the aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of adhesives, pastes, putties, sealing compounds and pressure compensation coatings for exterior insulation and finish systems